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Mayor & City Energy Officer

22 § 52-55

ARTICLE IX Energy and Sustainability Commission

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SECTION 22 § 52-55 – ARTICLE IX Energy and Sustainability Commission

Delete

Section 22 § 52-55

ARTICLE IX Energy Resources Commission in its entirety

Add in place thereof:

ARTICLE IX Energy and Sustainability Commission

§ 22-52. Establishment; purpose.

The Energy and Sustainability Commission (hereinafter referred to as the Commission), is hereby established, the purpose of which is to assist and ensure that the City identify, develop, implement, and manage programs and policies that achieve high levels of energy efficiency and energy resource sustainability and guard against effects of energy resource disruption/depletion and climate change in all of Northampton's public and private sectors (e.g., municipal, business, commercial, residential, agricultural, and institutional) consistent with the goals of the Sustainable Northampton plan, the City's climate change protection commitments, and other City plans/goals.

Membership; terms

The Commission shall consist of the following 11 voting members:

- A. The Director of Central Services, or his/her designee
- B. The Director of Public Works, or his/her designee
- C. The Director of Planning and Development, or his/her designee

- D. The Building Commissioner, or his/her designee
- E. A representative of Smith Vocational High School selected biannually by the Smith Vocational High School Superintendent
- F. Two members of the City Council, including one member of the finance committee, selected biannually by the City Council President.
- G. Four members of the public selected to supply: professional experience with energy issues (e.g., facilities managers, engineers, building trades, architects, utility personnel, or those with energy efficient and renewable energy product expertise); expertise in business, financing, or economic development; and representation of broad-based community interests (e.g., representative(s) of neighborhood, civic, institutional, faith-based, environmental or energy-related organizations) appointed by the Mayor for staggered three-year terms, and subject to City Council confirmation. Initial appointments of public members shall include two three-year terms, one two-year term(s) and one one-year term, so arranged that the terms of approximately 1/3 of the members will expire each year, and their successors shall be appointed for terms of three years each.

The voting members shall serve without compensation. The City's Energy and Sustainability Officer shall serve ex-officio as an active participant but to hold no vote and shall act as staff to the Commission. There may also be associate members appointed by the Commission, who shall serve without compensation, as sub-committee members but shall hold no vote on the Commission.

Chair.

The members of the Commission shall elect one member of the Commission to serve as Chair for a one-year term. The Commission shall elect other officers as needed. Elections will be held annually.

§ 22-53. Filling of vacancies.

A vacancy occurring shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. If the vacancy is for an unexpired term, the appointment shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term.

§ 22-54. Powers, duties and functions.

- A. It shall be the duty of the Commission to develop programs relating to energy conservation, energy efficiency, renewable energy supply and resource development, and energy information and to work with other City boards, commissions, and departments on energy disruption/depletion and climate change preparedness programs and plans.
- B. It shall be the duty of the Commission to work with City departments and other City boards and commissions to seek grants, rebates, incentives, bonding initiatives, savings-reinvestment opportunities, and Clean Energy Choice funds earmarked for Northampton to support and expand City energy-resource sustainability and climate change protection programs as well as energy resource disruption/depletion and climate change mitigation efforts.
- C. It shall be the duty of the Commission to assist the City in energy and climate change planning and decision-making, including proposing regulations for adoption by the Mayor or appropriate City boards and guiding the City's expenditures of Northampton's Clean Energy Choice Funds, so as to achieve the City's sustainability and climate change protection goals and guard against the potential effects of climate change and energy resource disruption/depletion.
- D. It shall be the duty of the Commission to assist the City in the development of data- and information-management systems that track the potential for energy-efficiency and conservation improvements, energy-source switching, and use of local renewable energy resources with the objective of obtaining information to help guide City energy planning and decision-making.
- E. It shall be the duty of the Commission to promote the development of sound local energy education programs, including partnering with other organizations, to increase community-wide energy literacy and use of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy.
- F. With the approval, support and assistance of the City of Northampton, the Commission has the power to apply for, receive, expend, represent and act on behalf of the City in connection with federal and state grants, grant programs or reimbursements, or private grants, keep accounts, records, personal data, enter into contracts with the Mayor's approval and adjust claims.

- G. With the approval, support and assistance of the City of Northampton, the Commission has the power to accept gifts, grants, bequests, and devises, whether real or personal, from any source, whether public or private, for the purpose of assisting the Commission in the discharge of its duties.
- H. The Commission shall have the power, subject to approval by the Mayor and appropriation by the City Council, to acquire real or personal property.
- I. The Commission shall have the power to adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out its responsibilities.
- J. It shall be the duty of the Commission to work cooperatively with and seek to coordinate the activities of governmental or unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes, and the Commission may advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which in its judgment it deems necessary for its work.
- K. It shall be the duty of the Commission to keep accurate records of its meetings and actions and to file an annual City report. The Commission may, subject to appropriation, appoint such clerk and other employees as it may from time to time require.

§ 22-55. Meetings; quorum.

The Energy and Sustainability Commission shall select a regular meeting date, at least monthly, and shall designate the time and place thereof. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or any six voting members of the Commission. Notice of any meeting of the Commission shall be filed with the City Clerk. The Commission shall keep accurate records of all meetings held and business transacted. Six members shall constitute a quorum but the affirmative vote of at least six members shall be required for any official act, order or vote of the Commission.